



NOTICED VARIANCE FOR XERISCAPED NEW LANDSCAPE INSTRUCTIONS

Variances to watering restrictions for commercial and residential properties may be granted in accordance with City Code, Chapter 6-4-30, Water Conservation Code. The director may grant a variance to Section 6-4-15 (Water Conservation Stage Regulations), Section 6-4-16 (Drought Response Stage One Regulations), Section 6-4-17 (Drought Response Stage Two Regulations), or Section 6-4-18 (Drought Response Stage Three Regulations), if the director determines that the property has completed the installation of a Xeriscape.

Chapter 6-4-2 defines New Landscape as:

Vegetation:

- (a) installed at the time of construction of a residential or commercial facility;*
- (b) installed as part of a governmental entity's capital improvement project;*
- (c) installed to stabilize an area disturbed by construction; or*
- (d) that alters more than 500 contiguous square feet of an existing landscape.*

Chapter 6-4-2 defines Xeriscape as:

a landscape which employs certain principles of design and installation which conserve water and energy and where the plant material, at mature growth, will provide, minimally, 50% of the new landscape's areal coverage. The plant material must consist of plants taken from a plant list provided by Austin Water Utility and identified as very low water usage and low water usage plants. The plant list may be amended as needed.

Variances may be granted by the director if:

- the new landscaping is classified as Xeriscape in accordance with this chapter; and
- irrigation for the establishment of the Xeriscaping complies with the following:
 - for the first 10 days following installation, irrigation is permitted daily before 10:00 a.m. and after 7:00 p.m.; and
 - for the 11th through the 40th day following installation, irrigation is permitted twice per week before 10:00 a.m. and after 7:00 p.m.; and
 - if the landscape installation is required in order to obtain a certificate of occupancy for a newly constructed single family home, the applicant shall provide a completed notice of irrigation variance to the director on the form provided by Austin Water at least one full business day before the landscape is installed.
- A one-time extension of the approved variance may be granted by the director only upon the submittal by the applicant of a written request which demonstrates a clear need for the extension to establish the new landscaping.



Please be advised:

- Adherence to the standard watering schedule is required until specific approval is granted by the Water Conservation Division of Austin Water.

Compliance:

Throughout the life of the variance, the Water Service Account Holder is presumed to be responsible for compliance with all the provisions of the Chapter 6-4, Water Conservation. This will include but is not limited to the following:

A person may not fail to repair a controllable leak including

- a broken sprinkler head, leaking or broken pipes or a leaking faucet;

A person may not operate a permanently installed irrigation system with

- a broken head
- a head that is out of adjustment and the arc of the spray head is over a street , parking area or other impervious surface
- a head that is misting because of high water pressure; or

A person may not allow water flow during irrigation that

- allows water to run, flow, stream in a way that extends into a street, parking area, or other impervious surface for a distance of 50 feet or greater; or
- Allows water to pond to a depth greater than 0.25 inch in a street, parking area, or on other impervious surfaces.

Suspension or Revocation of a Variance Chapter 6-4-30(K) states;

A variance following its approval by the director may be immediately suspended or revoked by Austin Water Utility if the director or director's designee determines any of the following:

- a violation of the terms of the variance occurs at the location during the effective period of the variance;
- the application submitted to the director upon which the variance approval was based included false, misleading, incomplete, or inaccurate information or attachments or
- the director declares an emergency recall of variances to control use or preserve supply based on protracted drought, unusual operational event, or other public necessity.

The applicant will be provided a variance posting form to be placed in a location on the subject property that is accessible and visible to the public. This form must remain in place until the variance is expired. The applicant will be contacted within five (5) business days of receipt of this application.



ID Request # _____
(AWU use only)

APPLICATION-NEW XERIC LANDSCAPE VARIANCE

Please Complete the Following Information:

Landscaping related to (check all that apply):

☐ New Construction

☐ A government project

☐ Altering more than 500 square feet of existing landscaping

☐ Stabilizing soil after construction

Projected Installation Complete: Month _____ Day _____ Year _____

Request to water from : Day 1 through Day 10: (dates) _____ through _____ before 10am/after 7pm
Day 11 through Day 40: (dates) _____ through _____ before 10am/after 7pm

New Landscape Installation Address:

Street: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Name appearing on Austin Water Utility Account: _____

Austin Water Utility Account Number: _____ Meter Number: _____

Account Holder's Phone: _____

Property Mgmt. or Organization (if applicable): _____ Contact Name: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Please identify preferred method to receive Variance Posting Form - check here _____ if same as applicant

Email: _____ Fax # _____

Please list the approved plant(s) you will be installing:

If you plan to install plant(s) not listed on the AWU Xeriscape Plant List, please list them in the space provided below. Consideration will be given on a case by case basis.



Attach a site map showing the following information:

- north arrow, street information, and building arrangement
- site map of new construction or capital improvement project or area disturbed by construction
- area of new landscaping over 500 contiguous square feet (alteration of existing landscape only)
- controllers identification and locations if applicable

WATER SERVICE ACCOUNT HOLDER SIGNATURE:

By signing my name below, I acknowledge that the above information is true and correct and that all attachments are made part of this variance request and any subsequent approvals. I further understand the watering restrictions imposed by this variance and that irrigation pursuant to this variance does not exempt the applicant or the property owner/manager from complying with the provisions of Austin City Code, Chapter 6-4, Water Conservation.

Signature of account holder or authorized agent: _____

Print Name: _____ Date: _____

Upon completion, Email, Fax or Mail to:

AWU Water Conservation
P.O. Box 1088
Austin, TX 78767
or
Fax to (512) 974-6548
or
Email: waterusecompvar@austintexas.gov

AWU Use Only

Approved ☐

Denied ☐

Initial Site Inspection Date: _____

_____/_____
(AWU staff) (Date)